

REMARKS

Introduction

Claims 1-7 are pending, of which claims 1 and 4 are independent and claims 1-3 have been withdrawn. Claim 4 has been amended to correct informalities in claim language and to more clearly define the present subject matter. Support for the amendment is found, for example, at page 8, lines 5-16 of the specification. Care has been taken to avoid introducing new matter.

Claim Rejection - 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 4-7 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maeda et al. (US 6,189,771) in view of Mei (US 6,680,128) and further in view of the collective teachings of Kodas (US 6,951,666) and Kang et al (US 5,837,119). This rejection is traversed for at least the following reasons.

Applicants respectfully submit that, at a minimum, none of the cited references discloses or suggests that “*the first electrode includes at least a first bump and a second bump and the second electrode includes at least a first circuit electrode and a second circuit electrode, both of which are to be connected to the first bump and the second bump by the soldering method, respectively,*” and “*in the step of letting molten solder come in contact with the first electrode, the first bump is in direct contact with the first circuit electrode, while the second bump is not in contact with the second circuit electrode,*” as recited by amended claim 4. It is clear that the cited references, specifically Maeda, fail to disclose the first and second bumps/circuit electrodes, and thus fail to disclose that the first bump is in direct contact with the first circuit electrode, while the second bump is not in contact with the second circuit electrode. Further, it would not have been obvious to add these features to any combination of the cited references.

Based on the foregoing, claims 4-7 are patentable over the cited references. Thus, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 4-7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

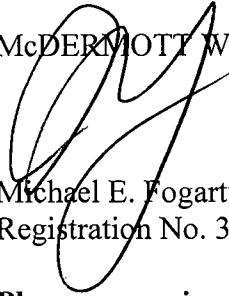
Conclusion

Having fully responded to all matters raised in the Office Action, Applicants submit that all claims are in condition for allowance, an indication for which is respectfully solicited. If there are any outstanding issues that might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is requested to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number shown below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

McDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP



Michael E. Fogarty
Registration No. 36,139

**Please recognize our Customer No. 53080
as our correspondence address.**

600 13th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005-3096
Phone: 202.756.8000 MEF:TS:blb
Facsimile: 202.756.8087
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